IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A device for holding hose clamps in a predetermined position, wherein the hose clamps each have a clamping part projecting radially away from a circumference of the hose clamps and wherein the clamping part has a projection extending in the circumferential direction, the device comprising:

a rail having a longitudinal slot configured to receive the clamping part of the hose clamps via an open end of the longitudinal slot, wherein the longitudinal slot has an edge configured to support the projection, ~~and~~ wherein the longitudinal slot has an open cross-sectional area matching a contour of the clamping part and the projection when viewed in an axial direction of the hose clamp, and wherein the longitudinal slot is undercut, so that an inner side of the longitudinal slot projects inwardly into a corner formed between the projection and a radially outer end section of the clamping part adjoining the projection and extending radially beyond the projection.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 1, wherein the rail is comprised primarily of plastic material.

5. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 4, wherein the plastic material is elastically bendable, wherein the rail has a sidewall adjoining the longitudinal slot, wherein the sidewall has transverse slots opening into the longitudinal slot, and wherein a spacing of the transverse slots relative to one another corresponds to an axial width of the hose clamps.

6. (Original) The device according to claim 1, wherein the open end of the longitudinal slot is closable and wherein the longitudinal slot has a closed end opposite the open end.